



San Diego City Attorney **CASEY GWINN**

ADVISORY

MEDIA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 18, 2002

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\$500,000 GRANT CHALLENGES SAN DIEGO TO BUILD A JUSTICE CENTER FOR FAMILIES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

***SD Family Justice Center will become the first of its kind in the country!
The California Endowment will present Grant to City Officials***

WHO: San Diego City Attorney Casey Gwinn, San Diego Mayor Dick Murphy, San Diego Councilmember Toni Atkins, San Diego Police Chief David Bejarano, The California Endowment's President & CEO Robert K. Ross, M.D., and a survivor of domestic violence.

WHAT: A \$500,000 Challenge Grant from The California Endowment supports the City's vision to create the San Diego Family Justice Center—where families will come first. The current system makes it difficult for victims to seek help and unintentionally wears them down because domestic violence professionals and services are scattered throughout the city and county of San Diego. The SD Family Justice Center will become the first in the nation to house the entire Domestic Violence Units of the Police Department and City Attorney's Office. It will also include a forensic medical unit, specialized counseling for children and community based services. Dr. Robert Ross will present the \$500,000 Challenge Grant to City Officials.

WHEN: Wednesday, March 20, 11:30 a.m..

WHERE: San Diego City Hall, 202 C Street, Closed Session Room, 12th Floor

VISUALS: Floor plans. After the news conference, media may visit the proposed downtown site at 707 Broadway (Washington Mutual Building).

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